

Serial No. 10/652,865
Amendment Filed July 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action Dated June 28, 2005

Amendment to the Claims:

This Listing of the Claims Replaces all prior Versions and Listings of the Claims in the Application.

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (Original): A device for facilitating communications between an elevator passenger and a person outside of the elevator through use of an elevator telephone, the device comprising:

a service port configured for connection to a telephone company feed line;

an elevator telephone port configured for connection to an elevator telephone, wherein said elevator telephone port is selectively coupled with said service port through a first switch that is configured to isolate the service port from the elevator telephone port upon receiving a first signal;

a supervisor port configured for connection to a supervisor telephone;

a second switch configured to facilitate electrical coupling between the elevator telephone port and the supervisor port upon receiving a second signal;

a control circuit configured to provide the first and second signals in response to an activation command; and

a ring circuit configured, as directed by the control circuit, to cause an elevator telephone connected to the elevator telephone port to ring.

Claim 2 (Original): The device of claim 1 further comprising a detection circuit configured to determine whether an elevator telephone connected to the elevator telephone port is off-hook, and to generate a corresponding answer signal for transmission to the control circuit,

Serial No. 10/652,865

Amendment Filed July 15, 2005

Reply to Office Action Dated June 28, 2005

wherein the control circuit is operative to disable the ring circuit in response to the answer signal.

Claim 3 (Original): The device of claim 1 further comprising a power supply circuit for providing, as directed by the control circuit, electrical power to the elevator telephone port and to the supervisor port in order to facilitate voice communication between an elevator telephone connected to the elevator telephone port and a supervisor telephone connected to the supervisor port.

Claim 4 (Original): The device of claim 1 wherein the first switch comprises a relay configured to selectively isolate the service port from the elevator telephone port.

Claim 5 (Original): The device of claim 4 wherein the second switch comprises a relay configured to selectively connect the elevator telephone port to the RDI line.

Claim 6 (Original): The device of claim 4 wherein the second switch comprises a relay configured to selectively disconnect the supervisor port from the RDI line.

Claim 7 (Original): The device of claim 5 wherein the first and second switches are integrated within a common relay.

Claim 8 (Original): The device of claim 1 further comprising a detection circuit configured to determine whether a handset of a supervisor telephone connected to the supervisor port is off-hook, the detection circuit being operative to generate an off-hook signal for transmission to the control circuit.

Claim 9 (Original): The device of claim 8 wherein the off-hook signal is the activation command.

Claim 10 (Original): The device of claim 1 further comprising an actuator configured to cause the generation of the activation command.

Serial No. 10/652,865

Amendment Filed July 15, 2005

Reply to Office Action Dated June 28, 2005

Claim 11 (Original): The device of claim 1 further configured to generate rings having a shortened cycle time.

Claim 12 (Original): The device of claim 11 further comprising a DTMF keypad and a corresponding tone generator circuit.

Claim 13 (Original): The device of claim 1 wherein the control circuit comprises at least one microcontroller.

Claim 14 (Original): A device for facilitating communications between an elevator passenger at an elevator telephone and a person outside of the elevator at a microphone/speaker pair, the device comprising:

a service port configured for connection to a telephone company feed line;

an elevator telephone port configured for connection to an elevator telephone, wherein said elevator telephone port is selectively coupled with said service port by a first switch that is configured to isolate the service port from the elevator telephone port upon receiving a first signal;

a second switch configured to facilitate electrical coupling between the elevator telephone port and a microphone/speaker pair upon receiving a second signal;

a control circuit configured to provide the first and second signals in response to an activation command; and

a ring circuit configured, as directed by the control circuit, to generate a ring signal for ringing an elevator telephone connected to the elevator telephone port.

Claim 15 (Original): The device of claim 14 further comprising a detection circuit configured to determine whether an elevator telephone connected to the elevator telephone port is off-hook, and to generate a corresponding answer signal for transmission to the control

Serial No. 10/652,865

Amendment Filed July 15, 2005

Reply to Office Action Dated June 28, 2005

circuit, wherein the control circuit is operative to disable the ring circuit in response to the answer signal.

Claim 16 (Original): The device of claim 14 further comprising a power supply circuit for providing, as directed by the control circuit, electrical power to the elevator telephone port in order to facilitate voice communication between a microphone/speaker pair and an elevator telephone connected to the elevator telephone port.

Claim 17 (Original): The device of claim 14 further comprising at least one of a microphone and a speaker of a microphone/speaker pair.

Claim 18 (Original): The device of claim 17 further comprising both a microphone and a speaker of a microphone/speaker pair.

Claim 19 (Original): The device of claim 14 further comprising a supervisor port configured for connection with at least one of a microphone and a speaker of a microphone/speaker pair.

Claim 20 (Original): The device of claim 19 further comprising a supervisor port configured for connection with both a microphone and a speaker of a microphone/speaker pair.

Claim 21 (Original): The device of claim 20 wherein the supervisor port is configured for connection with a supervisor telephone having a microphone/speaker pair.

Claim 22 (Original): The device of claim 14 further comprising a DTMF keypad and a corresponding tone generator circuit.

Claim 23 (Original): The device of claim 14 further comprising an actuator configured to cause the generation of the activation command.

Claim 24 (Original): The device of claim 14 further configured to generate rings having a shortened cycle time.

Serial No. 10/652,865

Amendment Filed July 15, 2005

Reply to Office Action Dated June 28, 2005

Claim 25 (Original): The device of claim 14 wherein the control circuit is configured to simultaneously provide the first and second signals.

Claim 26 (Original): The device of claim 14 wherein the control circuit is configured to sequentially provide the first and second signals with an intervening delay.

Claim 27 (Original): An elevator system comprising an elevator having a telephone selectively connected to a telephone company feed line through a communication device, the communication device further connected to a supervisor telephone and including:

a first switch configured to electrically isolate the elevator telephone from the feed line upon receiving a first signal;

a second switch configured to facilitate electrical coupling between the elevator telephone and the supervisor telephone upon receiving a second signal;

a control circuit configured to provide the first and second signals in response to an activation command; and

a ring circuit configured, as directed by the control circuit, to cause the elevator telephone to ring.

Claim 28 (Original): The device of claim 27 further comprising a detection circuit configured to determine whether the elevator telephone is off-hook, and to generate a corresponding answer signal for transmission to the control circuit, wherein the control circuit is operative to disable the ring circuit in response to the answer signal.

Claim 29 (Original): The device of claim 27 further comprising a power supply circuit for providing, as directed by the control circuit, electrical power to the elevator telephone and the supervisor telephone in order to facilitate voice communication therebetween.

Serial No. 10/652,865

Amendment Filed July 15, 2005

Reply to Office Action Dated June 28, 2005

Claim 30 (Original): A method for facilitating communications between an elevator passenger and a person outside of the elevator through use of an elevator telephone, the elevator telephone connected to a telephone company feed line, the method comprising:

receiving an activation command from the person outside of the elevator;

isolating the elevator telephone from the feed line in response to the activation command;

connecting the elevator telephone with an RDI line in response to the activation command; and

providing a ring signal to the elevator telephone over the RDI line upon connection of the elevator telephone with the RDI line.

Claim 31 (Original): The method of claim 30 further comprising the step of detecting the answering of the elevator telephone, in response to which the ring signal is no longer provided.

Claim 32 (Original): The method of claim 30 further comprising the step of providing power to the elevator telephone from the RDI line in order to facilitate voice communication between the elevator passenger and the person outside of the elevator.

Claim 33 (Original): A device for facilitating communications between an elevator passenger and a person outside of the elevator through use of an elevator telephone, the device comprising:

a service port configured for connection to a telephone company feed line;

an elevator telephone port configured for connection to an elevator telephone, wherein said elevator telephone port is selectively electrically coupled with said service port through a

Serial No. 10/652,865

Amendment Filed July 15, 2005

Reply to Office Action Dated June 28, 2005

means for isolating the service port from the elevator telephone port in response to an activation command;

a supervisor port configured for connection to a supervisor telephone;

means for detecting the activation command;

means for facilitating a communication link between the elevator telephone port and the supervisor port in response to the activation command; and

means for ringing an elevator telephone connected to the elevator telephone port.

Claim 34 (Original): The device of claim 32 wherein the means for isolating comprises a relay.

Claim 35 (Original): The device of claim 34 wherein the means for facilitating comprises the relay.

Claim 36 (Original): The device of claim 32 wherein the means for facilitating comprises at least one relay.

Claim 37 (Original): A device for facilitating communications between an elevator passenger and a person outside of the elevator through use of an elevator telephone, the device comprising:

a service port configured for connection to a telephone company feed line;

an elevator telephone port configured for connection to an elevator telephone, wherein said elevator telephone port is selectively coupled with said service port;

a supervisor port configured for connection to a supervisor telephone; and

Serial No. 10/652,865

Amendment Filed July 15, 2005

Reply to Office Action Dated June 28, 2005

a control circuit operatively coupled with the service port, the elevator telephone port and the supervisor port, the control circuit configured to facilitate isolation of the service port from the elevator telephone port in response to an activation command, and to facilitate electrical coupling between the elevator telephone port and the supervisor port in response to the activation command, wherein the control circuit is further configured to facilitate ringing of an elevator telephone connected to the elevator telephone port.

Claim 38 (New): The device of claim 32 further comprising means for detecting the answering of an elevator telephone connected to the elevator telephone port.